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TABES
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TABES DORSALIS:

OR, THE

Cause of Consumption

I N

YOUNG MEN and WOMEN.

W I T H

An EXPLICATION of its SYMPTOMS, PRECAUTIONS, and the METHOD of CURE.

UNDER THE FOLLOWING HEADS, viz.

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|---|--|
| <p>I. The Knowledge of Nervous Diseases hardly attainable.</p> <p>II. The <i>Tabes Dorsalis</i>, a particular Species of Consumption, the proximate Cause of which is, a general Debility of the Nerves.</p> <p>III. The immoderate Loss of so pure a Fluid as the Semen is, has also a considerable Share in producing the Effect.</p> | <p>IV. This Consumption is incident only to young Men of Salacious Dispositions, and proceeds from too early Venery, or immoderate Use of it, or Pollution.</p> <p>V. The Symptoms and Effects of the <i>Tabes Dorsalis</i>.</p> <p>VI. The last Stage with more formidable Symptoms; with the Method of Cure.</p> |
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TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A Physicial Account of the Nature and Effects of VENERY, as far as relates to young Men, &c. its Use and Abuse, when and in what Circumstances salutary or pernicious to Persons of different Ages, Temperaments and Constitutions.

D. Lewis
By a PHYSICIAN, of BRISTOL.

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T H E

P R E F A C E.

AS Nothing but the Merit of a Book can procure it a favourable Reception, whatever the Author may say in Recommendation of it will be unnecessary or ineffectual. If there be any Thing valuable in the following Work, it is in the latter Part, for that brings Relief to the miserable Patient, by Means established upon reiterated Experience, which indeed scarce ever fail, if ever applied, and strictly adhered to. The Official Medicines are selected according to the last

Edition of. the London Pharmacopœia (though this Essay was written before) because either they are more simple, elegant, and equally efficacious, or they have received new Names which it was proper to describe them by.





A.

Practical ESSAY, &c.

S E C T. I

Our Knowledge of Nervous Diseases, is scanty and superficial.

* S *
* O remote is the Nature of them from
* human Understanding, that it is not
* yet determined, whether the Nerves
* are Tubes, conveying an ethereal
* Fluid, or impervious and solid Bo-
* dies, whose Functions are accountable for by
* mechanical Vibration, or whether both these co-
* operate to the same End. Sydenham, who
* treated of other Diseases, with much judgment
* and Accuracy, ingenuously confessed he did not
* understand those of the Nerves; and indeed, the
* learned

learned Labours, as well of Anatomists and Philosophers, as Physicians of all Ages, serve only to shew, that this is one of those nicer Works of Nature which our finite Conceptions are too gross to dive into.

*The source of
the nerves*

Can any one doubt of the Truth of this, when he reflects on the little Progress made in this Part of Physick, since *Neurology* began to be cultivated? *Willis*, *Du Verney*, *Vieussens*, &c. acquitted themselves as Anatomists very well: They traced the Nerves from their own Source, followed the several Branches to their minute Terminations; they were very careful in their Descriptions and Delineations, and their Industry deserves Applause: It was obvious enough to them, that *Sensation* and *Motion* are performed by the Mediation and Influence of the nervous Bodies; but, neither *Willis*, *Du Verney*, nor *Vieussens*, reasoned upon the Manner in which these Effects are brought about to the Satisfaction of their Readers. Nor, have the laudable Attempts of *Borellus*, *Steno*, *Mayow*, and others, been attended with the desired Success. The *Hypotheses*, that have been formed upon this Subject, give us lively Ideas of their Authors refined Imaginations, but being raised upon too slender a Foundation, misled them and their Followers into erroneous Practice, and are therefore justly exploded.

S E C T. II.

More Benefit will accrue to Mankind by diligently attending to the Symptoms of them, and the Effects of the Remedies applied, than by any precarious Reasoning, farther than those Symptoms

toms and Effects will support. A Theory built upon Facts, being the only infallible one in the Science of Physick.

PITCAIRN* long ago demonstrated the Absurdity of enquiring into the *physical* Causes of Distempers; he has shewn, that Physicians may know the State of the Part affected, and the Method of Cure, without the Knowledge of those Causes; and he has proved, how fatal to the Improvement of Medicine such abstruse Speculations have been. If no, better be the Event of such Reasoning upon Diseases in general, no wonder those of the Nerves are perplexing and unintelligible. To succeed happily in the Cure of these then in particular, we must attend to the more plain and obvious Appearances of them, and search for the immediate Causes of them by the Assistance of those Appearances; to deduce Causes from Effects, being the only Method of obtaining the true Cause of any Distemper. Any Enquiry farther than this, is unnecessary and unuseful.

S E C T. III.

The Tabes Dorsalis is a particular Species of Consumption, the proximate Cause of which is a general Debility of the Nerves.

W H A T has been hitherto said, by Way of Introduction, will not be found altogether foreign to the present Purpose, when it shall appear in the following Pages, that the Subject of them has a Weakness of the nervous System for its imme-

* Pitcairn. de Morbis.

mediate Cause ; or rather the Disease itself, of which I am about to treat, is a general Debility of the Nerves. Now, as nothing is more necessary to a right Understanding it than a distinguishing Definition, we begin with that. Of the several Kinds of Consumption incident to human Bodies, the Tabes Dorsalis is the slowest in its Progress, but the most melancholy in its Circumstances, and unless timely obviated, for the most Part fatal. It is characterized by a remarkable Pain in the Back as the Name implies, seated in the Medulla spinalis, Nerves immediately issuing from thence, and the spermatic Arteries ; therefore felt most in the Region of the Loins. But in Process of Time, the Back and Neck are also affected, and a violent Pain is felt in the Head ; the Patient is, however, at Intervals, free from Pain entirely, especially in the Infancy of the Distemper.

S E C T. IV.

It derives its Origin from that Convulsion of them, without which there is no Evacuation of the Semen. Not but the immoderate Loss of so pure a Fluid, as the Semen is, has also a considerable Share in producing the Effect.

pipes BY considering the human body as made up of flexible ~~pipes~~ *pipes* and yielding Fluids, the only View necessary for the Practice of Physick, we readily understand how Convulsions wear out the Constitution, viz. by destroying the Strength and Elasticity of the solid Parts. That they do so is invariably true, nothing is more common than to hear a Person under that Affliction, complain of extreme Soreness all over the Body: And that

that the Extasy which accompanies veneral Enjoyments, is of the Nature of a Convulsion, is not hard to be conceived. *Quincy*, in his Explanation of *Sanctorius's Aphorisms*,* expressly says, that, “ at the Time of Coition, the Fibres are “ intensely drawn up;” that “ a too frequent “ Use of this Exercise cannot but be very prejudicial by overstraining and destroying the Force “ of the Fibres,” the natural Consequence of which must be a Springyness, and Action upon their Contents. Hence Perspiration† is lessened, the Fluids run into preternatural Cohesions, and Obstructions are generated. And this morbid Condition is still augmented by an excessive Loss of the *Semen* itself, since the Blood is thereby robbed of its most pure, balsamic, and invigorating Particles.

S E C T. V.

This Consumption is incident only to Young Men of salacious Dispositions, and proceeds from too early Venery, an immoderate Use of it, or Pollution.

IT is no unreasonable Supposition, that this Consumption must have had a Being as early as any to which Youth is subject, yet being but little treated of by Physicians, no adequate Notion of it can be collected from their Writings; neither has it been properly distinguished. The *Fluor Albus* in Women, and a *Gleet* sometimes in the other Sex, are generally confounded with it, tho’ these Consumptions are essentially different. *Fluor*

* Sect. VI. Aphor. 1.

† Mala a nimio Coitu orta mediate a Perspiratione ----. Sanctor. Sect. 6. Aphor. 3.

Albus is the Product of a *Cachexy*, in which the **U***terus* is subjected to this Discharge on Account of the Peculiarity of its Structure; a *Gleet* in Men is most Times the Consequence of the *Venereal Disease*, in both which Cases nothing *seminal* is evacuated. And though these distempers, if the Discharge be copious and long continued, sometimes run the Patient into a Consumption, as the Increase of any Secretion of the Body, if not speedily suppressed, would do; yet a Consumption from such a Cause is not attended with all the Symptoms that accompany the Consumption under Consideration, nor is it to be relieved entirely in the same Manner. The best Description of the *Tabes Dorsalis* is that of *Hippocrates*.* *Tabes Dorsalis ex spinali Medulla oritur, præcipue vero recentes spansos & libidinosos corripit, febris sunt expertes, bene comedunt, & colliquantur. Quod si ita affectum perconteris, asseret sibi videri, ex superioribus Partibus a Capite velut formicas in spinam demitti, cumque urinam & sterCUS reddit, Semen genitale copiosum & liquidum ei prodit, neque generatio fit, & inter dormiandum, cum uxore dormiat necne, Veneris ludibria patitur. Cumque alias, tum præcipue per locum arduum, iter fecerit, aut cucurrerit, anhelosus & imbecilis evadit. Caput gravatur, & aures sonant. Hic temporis progressu vehementibus febribus correptus, perit ex lipyria febre.* But what this Father of Physicians lays down concerning a liquid Semen being discharged, together with the Urine and Excrements, is grounded on a Mistake, that Discharge being mucous, not *seminal*, as later Enquiry into the Anatomy and Functions of the Parts have enabled us to know: Nor is it in Consequence of this Discharge, that the Patient is incapable of Propaga-

* *Barnet. Hippocrat. Contract. P. 1:4.*

tion,

tion, or answering the Purposes of Marriage, as shall be shewn in its proper Place. Hence have I taken Occasion to commit my Thoughts to Writing; I have had several Opportunities of observing the Nature and Progress of the Distemper; I have known its Termination both in Death and Recovery; I have applied the probable Method and Remedies, and have carefully attended to the Effects of them; an Account of which shall be candidly communicated.

Provident Nature, for the Continuation of Mankind, hath accompanied the Business of Generation, with a Sense the most exquisitely delightful; at the Time of *Puberty* the Passion of Love begins to exert itself in Consequence of a copious Secretion of the *Semen*, which prompts to be discharged; thus she seems to have capacitated us about the Age of Fourteen for the Propagation of our Species. But if we attend to the Consequences of venereal Commerce at this Time of Life, we shall discover, that Nature has not intended the *seminal* Juice for that Purpose only, since repeated Acts in so early an Age restrain the Growth of the Individual, and unnerve the Man. That there is besides a Benefit accruing from it to the Constitution, may be collected from an Observation of those Appearances that arise therein at the Time of *Puberty*. Then it is that Hairs begin to shoot at the *Pubes*, the Beard grows, the Voice alters to a graver Tone, muscular Strength is augmented, and a more sprightly Comportment accompanies them; and that the Cause of these Appearances is the *Succus genitilis* absorbed by some Vessels or other, and reconveyed into the Habit, there is no Room to doubt, how mysterious soever it may appear to the Understanding. For we

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know

know from Experience, if the secretory Organs of this Juice be destroyed by Castration before the Time of *Puberty*, as is done very often in *Italy* to preserve the Voice, the Beard does not grow, nor the Voice differ from that of a Woman; and if by any Accident a Man be deprived of his Testicles after this Age, the Destruction of these Circumstances of Virility also follow. In Confirmation of this, *Boerhaave** gives an Instance of Fact. "There was an intrepid Soldier, who, aspiring after the Reward, proposed by the General to him who should first fix the Standard in the Enemy's Fort, climbed through the thick Battery of the Enemy, but unfortunately the Fire of a Cannon tore off both his Testicles; yet he recovered, and became at length effeminate, not in mind but in Body. The Strength of the several Muscles of the genital Parts still continued, and nothing was wanting towards his Virility but his Testicles, and yet his Voice soon altered, and Beard fell off, &c." -----

From what has been hitherto said, it appears, how too easily *Vener*y, or an immoderate Use of it, will bring on a *Tabes Dorsalis*, viz. by weakening the Nerves, and thereby enfeebling the Tone of the solid Parts chiefly, and partly by impoverishing the Fluids. The same Thing is also effected in early Life by that abominable Practice of School-boys, a Practice which I cannot describe in Terms odious enough, *Pollutio sui*, which, actuated more by ~~Vicious Inclination~~ Sense and Reason, and ignorant of the mischievous Consequences, they repeat so often, that the *Vesiculæ seminales* let go their Contents upon so slight an Occasion as dallying or conversing with a Woman, and even sometimes upon a lascivious Thought. Here lies, I say, very

* Institutes, Vol. 5. p. 92.

often,

often, the original and almost unconquerable Cause of deplorable Effects, and from this Source, highly criminal in a religious View, springs the debilitated Condition of the tabid Patient.

To elucidate the Subject, and render the following Pages as useful as I can, it will be necessary to pursue this Method. *First*, To give a critical Enumeration of the several Symptoms that attend this *Consumption*, examining in what Manner the Cause assigned produces them as I go along. Then, *Secondly*, To lay down the Method and Medicines conducive to the Cure; avoiding herein all *Hypotheses* whatever, and making Reason subservient to those natural Occurrences that present themselves to our Observation, which should be the Guide of every one in medical Inquiries.

S E C T. VI.

The Symptoms of the Tabes Dorsalis are involuntary, nocturnal, seminal Emissions; a Pain in the Back, and often in the Head; Formication at the Spine; an aching Pain, rolling, and hanging down of the Testicles; a Weakness of Memory and Sight; and a mucous Discharge from the Urethra, especially after straining at the Discharge of the Excrements.

INVOLUNTARY, nocturnal, seminal Emissions, are generally the Effect of venereal Dreams, but sometimes they happen without.----- They happen indeed to Persons in Health now and then, when the Vesiculæ seminales are turgid, and Coition is not used, without Detriment, but in the morbid Case scarce a Night passes, and sometimes

sometimes the Patient scarce ever sleeps, free of this Evacuation that exhausts his Strength. To account for this, we must enter into a Consideration of those Causes that concur to the Erection of the Penis. And, here we are taught that “ the Muscles * concerned in this Action, are “ not to be reckoned among the Class of vital “ or spontaneous Muscles, since of themselves “ they do not act in the most healthy Man; but “ they are rather a Class *sui generis*, being under “ the Influence of the Imagination. The Will “ has no Influence either to suppress, excite, or “ diminish their Action, &c.” The Imagination therefore being frequently affected with lecherous Ideas whilst we are awake, suffers the same Impression in the Time of Sleep, or, in other Words, we dream of those Things which most sensibly employ our Thoughts in the Day-time; if to this we add, the Tendency and greater Affluence of Humours to the preparing Parts in Consequence of a frequent spontaneous Evacuation of *Semen*, it follows, that there will be an involuntary Discharge of it in the Time of Sleep. †

* Boerhaave's Institutes, Vol. 5. p. 89.

† Triplici autem modo ad Venerem extimula mire, vel Organorum generationis, derivatis in eadem reliquis, irritatione, vel præ nimiae Seminis Sanguinisque Copia, vel ob diuturnas venereas Cogitationes. Prior uterque Modus conceptu facilis est, sed vix concipi potest, iur Spiritus a sola cogitatione in has partes determinentur: imo veneris sensatio non male recensetur a quibusdam tanquam sexta sensus species, quod a reliquis omnino differat. Verum ut ut sit, detento venerea cogitatione Animo, maxima velocitate atque quantitate in generationis organa, imo & in alias partes derivantur Spiritus, unde vasorum contractio major & frequentior Salivæ, Urinæ, &c. excretio.

Sanctor. Aphorism. Explanat.

Phyfico-med Auctore. P. Noguez, Medico Par. Tom. 2.

A Pain

A Pain in the Back, and often in the Head. It has been observed in *Section III.* that this Pain is felt most, and most often in the Loins, the Reason of which is, because that is the Region of the Spermatic Arteries, for these must inevitably suffer a Distension by an increased Affluence of Blood. The Nerves also that are distributed to the Muscles concerned in the Act of Coition, arise from the *Medulla Spinalis* in that Part: And it is no Wonder if in Process of Time the Back and Neck, as well as the Head, are affected in the same Manner, since the whole Length of the *Medulla Spinalis* is an Elongation of the Brain, and both together the Source of all the Nerves in the Body.

Formication at the Spine. This is an Affection of the *Medullas Spinalis* easier to be conceived than explained.

An aching Pain, rolling, and Dependency of the Testicles. The Testicles being the secretory Organs of the genital Juice, are furnished with Arteries, Veins, Lymphatics, and Nerves, like other Glands, and suspended by the Cremaster Muscle. When therefore from any Cause their Texture is weakened, as it will be in the present Case by too copious a Secretion of their Fluid a Pain will be felt (in the same Manner as in the Kidnies in a *Diabetes*;) and this Pain (accompanied with a Sense of rolling, merely nervous) is increased by their hanging down, which is derived from that general Relaxation of Fibres that attends the whole Body in the *Tabes Dorsalis*, and therefore the *Cremaster Muscle* in particular.

A Weakness

A Weakness of Memory and Sight. That a Weakness of Memory should be a Symptom, is not strange, since Memory and all the Faculties of the Understanding depend on the firm Contexture of the solid Parts. And whoever considers the nervous Fabric of the Eye, will readily conceive how the Sight will be particularly injured in a general Debility of the Nerves.

And a mucous Discharge from the Urethra, especially after straining at the Discharge of the Excrements. This is that Discharge, called by Hippocrates a *liquid Semen* (*vide* Comment. to Sect. 5.) but is no more than the ~~Mucous~~ *Mucous* of the *prostrate* Gland. This ~~Mucous~~ *Mucous* is always evacuated with the *Semen*, whose Passage it facilitates by lubricating the *Urethra*; it sometimes also appears in Time of Health, and long Abstinence from *Venery*, though not of long Duration, nor does it then require any Remedy: But as a Symptom of the *Tabes Dorsalis*, it always follows the Urine and Excrements, the Weakness of its containing Vessels not being able to resist that circumambient Pressure, which is ever exerted in the Discharge of them.

S E C T. VII.

And this Consumption is farther attended with great Dejection of Mind.

S O intimately is the Mind and Body blended together, that there cannot be any Disease of the one which will not influence the other, but in none is the Mind more deeply affected than in this. To add to his Infelicity, a melancholy Gloom

Gloom perpetually attends the Patient, and Silence and Solitude are anxiously sought after.----- The chearful Haunts of Men no longer delight him; he is absent in Company, and will have no Part of the Conversation. He is not happy even in his Friend: A Sense of his Misfortune, and perhaps the aggravating Circumstance of having brought it upon himself for ever hang on his Mind. The Company of the female Sex he loves indeed, but the Apprehensions that he may be cut off from *nuptial* Felicity, interrupts the Fruition of their pleasing Converse. Thus deeply dejected, he excludes himself from Society, wanders in Retirement, and it is well if he seeks not to destroy himself at last.

When the Disease arrives at this Period, a proper Method of Relief, severely persisted in, may stop its Career, but not unless it be severely persisted in; for as these Appearances are a long Time (Years) in *Embryo*, their Duration is long; obstinately standing out against the necessary Remedies. But now or never is the Time to subdue them.

S E C T. VIII.

The other Stage of the Tabes Dorsalis is attended with more formidable Symptoms, viz. a Gutta Serena brings on incurable Blindness; the Eyes grow hollow; the Visage meagre and thin; the Body emaciated and weak; a Palpitation of the Heart, and Shortness of Breath succeed; a Fever supervenes; and a Syndrome of heſtical Complaints precedes the fatal Catastrophe.

A L L the Symptoms here described but one, are common to the last Stage of every *Consump-*

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tion,

tion, from what Cause soever it arises; and they are generally incurable: but the *Gutta Serena*, peculiar to the *Tabes Dorsalis*, incurable also for the most Part, deserves to be particularly considered. This Disease is an Affection of the *Eyes*, which does not manifest itself by any other visible Symptom than a Dilatation, and Want of Motion, in the *Iris*. The *Eye*, otherwise appears fair and natural, but the *Optic Nerve* being rendered insensible of the Rays of Light, or incapable of transmitting the Impression of them to the common *Sensorium*, the *Iris*, whose Office it is to lessen or enlarge the Pupil, according to the Quantity of Light, suffers by Consent, and loses its Motion, and the Patient is quite blind. The antecedent Causes of this Disease are properly enough divided in *Repletion* and *Inanition*, the latter of which only concerns the present Subject. But among all the Causes reducible to Inanition, nothing more remarkably occasions it than an excessive Effusion of the Succus genitalis. Frequent Mention is made in Authors of a Sympathy between the *Eyes* and *Genitals*, but this can be no other than what results from the Action of the genital Organs, in which the Eyes suffer on Account of their nervous Retinæ, for between these Parts there is no immediate Communication of Nerves. Thus *Sanctorius** says, *Coitus immoderatus post Stomachum lædit magis Oculos.* And *Frederic Hoffman*† has given a History of this Kind, well worth the Reader's Perusal. This Author accounts for it by an Analogy between the *seminal Juice*, and that of the Nerves, the latter being robbed by the Expence of the former; and *Sanctorius* in his following Aphorism speaks to the

* Sect. 6. Aphorism. 18.

† Consult Med. Cent. 2. Sect. 3. Cas. 104.

same Purpose : But this Fluid of the Nerves having not yet been proved, or if it could be, there does not seem to be any Similitude between it and the *Semen* : and it being much more easy to conceive how the Nerves may be injured in their Texture by repeated Shocks (such as the venereal Orgasm is) this latter Manner of explaining it, deserves the Preference ; and the Loss of the Sperm may be considered no otherwise to affect the Constitution, than as it impoverishes the Blood (being the most pure Parts of it) which the Increase of any Secretion of the Body, if not timely suppressed, would likewise do, though perhaps not so slowly and certainly.

Pertinent to this Doctrine may be adduced what has been observed upon Dissection. *Bonetus* * records, that the *Optic* Nerves were wasted, flaccid, and too small. And Mr. *Chefelden* † has given an Account of the like Observation.

But in whatever Manner soever the Cause assigned produces the Symptoms of the *Tabes Dorsalis* thus enumerated, whether by weakening the Fabric of the Nerves, expending their Spirits, or otherwise, it does not diversify the Indications of Cure ; the Disease we find is a Laxity of the Nerves, and as the Strength of the Solids depends on the Strength of these, any Thing that invigorates the Nerves, will add Strength to and restore the Solids, and relieve the Patient. But with Regard to the particular Symptom last mentioned, no particular Remedy can be applied ; so that if it does not yield in its Infancy, when Cobwebs,

* Sepulchret. Anatomic. lib. 1. sect. 18. observat. 3. & 4.

† Philosoph. Transact. No. 337. p. 281

Flies, &c. skim before the Sight, under the Means used for the Disease in general, the Patient will by Degrees become quite blind, for which there is no Relief.---We come now to the other Part of our Design, viz. to lay down the Method and Medicines conducive to the Cure.

S E C T. IX.

The Cure of this Disease depends as much on knowing what to avoid, as what to do; without a nice Regularity of the Non-naturals therefore, Medicine will have little or no Effect. Thus the Salubrity of the Air, is of great Importance; the Diet should be analeptic and cooling; Sleep little, and in due Season; moderate Exercise must be used; especially riding on Horseback; the Secretions of the Body are to be regulated if out of Order; and the Patient should be entertained with chearful Company, and mirthful Diversions.

N O Disease requires a greater Regard to the Non-naturals, than the *Tabes Dorsalis*; its Attacks we have shewn are early, its Progress slow, but sure; and it seems almost to be interwoven in the Constitution before the Patient discovers his Danger; for the Appetite is generally good, (*bene comedunt*, says *Hippocrates*, vide *Comment.* to *Sect.* 5.) As the Air is that *Element* in which we live, move, and have our Being, the good or bad Qualities of it ever stand foremost in a medical View. A clear and temperate Air is universally known to be the best for continuing Health, but a cold rather than a hot Air seems to contribute most to the recovering a thin hectic Constitution, and the Patient should habituate himself to be often in it.

As to Diet, every Thing salted, spice, or otherwise seasoned, and all spirituous and fermented Liquors of whatever Kind, ought to be religiously avoided. They accelerate the Motion of the Blood, and inflame the Body. Water only (*Bristol Water*) or mixed with a little old *Rhenish Wine* in the Summer-time, in the Winter *Red Port* should be made the common Drink; and plain Roasting or Boiling is the best *Cookery* for the animal Diet of the *Patient*. But among all the Materials of Food, there is not any Thing more beneficial than Milk.* I have known a Pint, and with some, two Pints of Milk, drank in two Draughts at Half an Hour's Distance, warm from the Cow in the Morning, and repeated in the Afternoon, become a wonderful restorative. All the warmer Months it ought to be so used, and to be made as much as possible an Ingredient in the other daily Sustenance. Thus *Chocolate* made with Milk, in such Quantity as to pass easy off the Stomach, is an excellent Breakfast for a tabid Constitution. I knew a Child twelve Years old, in the last Stage of a *Consumption*, when given over by a *Physician*, recovered by the Mother's giving her *Chocolate* only, in small Quantities often repeated. Indeed it is an Aliment that for weak Constitutions cannot be too much recommended; and it may at any Time be made to sit easy on the Stomach, by diluting it with Water. Besides *Chocolate*, *Viper Broth*, *Broths* prepared with Milk, *Rice-Milk*, and a Variety of other Combinations, known

* Purgato ~~an~~um & doersum corpore, lac bubulum per quadraginta dies bibendum exhibeto. *Burneti Hippocrat.* p. 115.

Sursum

to every Family, may be contrived to humour the Palate of the *Patient*.

I have not known a single Instance where *animal* Diet for Dinner has done any Harm, yet it will be prudent to recommend such as is of easy Digestion. Lamb, Veal, young Mutton, Venison, Fowls, &c. well roasted or boiled, unattended with poignant Sauces, and swallowed with equal Quantities of Bread and Roots together (more or less occasionally) cannot fail of producing laudable *Chyle* and good Nutriment if well digested, (the *Criterion* whereby the Quantity and Quality of the Meal are to be determined;) and will do more Service in Recruiting languid Nature than Medicine can.

But with Regard to Supper, the *Patient* is to be particularly cautioned. Nothing but Milk warmed before the Fire, and a Slice of thin toasted Bread can be allowed without Detriment; and this ought to be taken two Hours before Bed-time, for Sleep is a Time of Application, not for the Preparation of the Aliment. That Nutrition may be carried on naturally, it is necessary Sleep should be sound and uninterrupted, but nothing even in a State of Health is a greater Impediment to Repose, than a late or an animal Supper, as the Voluptuous can tell. If this be the Case in general to a Person labouring under a *Tabes Dorsalis*, the avoiding such becomes indispensibly necessary. We have observed (in *Comment* to *Seçt.* 6.) that *seminal Emissions* in the Night draw after them all the other Symptoms, whether these are owing to venereal Dreams or not, they certainly will not happen so often, if the Mind, and its Powers, are unmolested,

lessed, *i. e.* unconcerned in any animal Action, for the Disturbance of the Imagination is thereby in a great Measure cut off. This is a Truth incontestable, for I have always observed the *Patient* to sleep more soundly, and to escape this *Evacuation* more constantly, when he makes no Supper at all.

Sleep little, and in due Season. If the Dictates of Nature be followed (and a *Physician* is Nature's Minister) we should go early to Bed, and rise early. In the Night Season the Inclemency of the Atmosphere is greatest, and our Bodies after the Vigilance and Labour of the Day then least able to resist the Impression. Perpiration, the most important of all the bodily Discharges, goes on best in Bed:* But it is absolutely necessary to forbid a *Patient*, affected with the Disease I am prescribing to, an Indulgence in Bed in the Morning. The more moderate the Quantity of his Sleep is, the sweeter and more invigorating will it be. Thus, if he lies down at Ten o'Clock (which Hour he should never exceed) he ought to rise in the Summer-time at Four or Five, in the Winter at Six or Seven; otherwise he may observe as a general Rule, to rise immediately upon waking; for a second Repose in the Morning, however inclined he may be to it, is almost attended with Dreams. And though this Practice may be irksome at first, *Custom* will make it familiar and agreeable.

Moderate Exercise must be used, especially riding on Horseback. That the Air may be enjoyed to

* ----- diuturna enim pacior longe nocturna Perpiratio. Sanctor. Aphorism. Explanat. Auctore. P. Neguez, Tom. 1. p. 35.

the best Advantage, and that the Diet of the *Patient* may be thoroughly digested, which will pave the Way to a natural Sleep, he ought to use as much *Exercise* as his Strength will permit. Gentle Walking in the Morning in the Fields, if the Season be favourable, otherwise at home, or playing at Shuttle-Cock, may serve for Part; but the best Kind of Exercise is that of riding on Horseback. It is Exercise without Labour. And since the Mind in the *Tabes Dorsalis*, is to be relieved as well as the Body, the taking a long Journey, by such daily Portions as to avoid extraordinary Weariness, whereby new Objects will continually present, is surprizingly efficacious, and if the Circumstances of the Patient will permit, ought ever to be recommended by his Physician.

The Secretions of the Body are to be regulated, if out of Order. Thus, smoking Tobacco is to be forbidden. The Saliva was not designed by Nature to be thus lavishly expended, and though some Constitutions may bear this Evacuation, it cannot be allowed in the present Case, since the Solids in general being weak, the Glands have patent Orifices, and the Fluids are thereby rendered liable to run off too fast. As to the rest of the Secretions, the other Non-naturals being rightly observed, there is seldom any Disorder in them.

And the Patient should be entertained with chearful Company, &c. The last Point we have to speak to on his Head, is the Passions. Physicians well know how important the Regulation of them is; for between the Mind and the Body there is such a Connection, that the vital and animal Actions never fail to affect one another. In the

the *Tabes Dorsalis* the *Patient* discovers excessive Grief and Melancholy. Now, it is not enough that they are mitigated by remedying the Vice of those corporeal Organs upon which they depend, every possible Means of Relief is to be sought after; and some Assistance may be had from exciting the opposite *Passions*. Thus Mirthful Company, and engaging Diversions, &c. are known to take off the mind from gloomy Thoughts and intense Melancholy. Here the eloquent vivacious Harangues of the *Physician* will do great Service. But it must be observed here, that as the *Company* of the *Female Sex* is apt to excite libidinous Ideas, it ought by all Means to be avoided. Study also is highly prejudicial; the *Patient* should never be left to himself, never suffered to read, nor have Time to reflect on his severe Fortune, for all these oppress the Nerves, sink his Spirits, and obstruct the *Cure*.

S E C T. X.

All the Medicines that are necessary, are derived from the two Classes of Balsamics and Astringents.

BY Balsamic Medicines, I mean in this Place, such as comfort the Nerves, corroborate the Constitution, and thereby animate the Man. Among these are, *Flor. Tiliæ, Lavendul. Rorismarin. Pæoniæ, Herb. Thym. Meliss. Menth. Vulgar. Majoran. Calaminth. Cort. Cinnamon. Canell. alb. Aurantior. Siccati, Fruct. Nuc. Moschat.* of the Animal Class *Musk*. The simple Waters of *Cinnamon, Orange Peel, and common Mint*; the *Aq. Alexater. simpl.* the Spirit of *Rosemary*, the compound Spirit of *Lavender, Sp. volat. aromatic.*

tic. *Julep. e Moscha*, the Tincture of Cinnamon, and the essential Oils of Majoram, Spearmint, Rosemary, Lavender, and Cinnamon, *Syr. e Cort. Aurantior. Caryophyllor. rubor.* out of which commodious Forms may be contrived. Of the Class of Astringents, may be reckoned Rad. Bistort. Tormentill, &c. and what is preferable to every thing else, the Peruvian Bark. Of Official Compositions Conserv. Prunellor. Sylvestr. Elixir. Vitriol. Acid. the Extract and simple Tincture of the Cort. Peruv. Tinct. Saturnia Syrup of Quinces and Lemons, &c. Forms of which, and the proper Time of administering them, can be prescribed by the attending Physician. The subacid Fruits also as Grapes, Strawberries, Currants, Raspberries, Cherries, Oranges, &c. are grateful, cooling, and salutary.

Astringent Remedies are also applied externally. Thus the Emplastr. Roborant. is to be laid on the Loins, over which may be worn a broad Belt, with signal Advantages. The Testicles are to be suspended in a bag Truss, and the Perinæum, Testicles, and Pubes, to be embrocated at going to Bed, with Vinegar; or Cloths squeezed out of Verjuice, or Vinegar, may be laid on them, and retained all Night. But among all Medicines, whether external or internal, there is nothing can equal the Virtue of the Cold Bath.... This is very deservedly brought into Use of late Years, for where there is no Contraction, such as Obstruction, Inflammation, or Ulcer in the internal Parts, it cools the Body more, strengthens the Nerves better, and promotes Perspiration more effectually, than any Medicine taken down the Throat can do; and will do as much Service in the Tabes Dorsalis prudently used, as every Thing

Thing else put together. In this *Case*, less Preparation is necessary than in most other Distempers. The *Patient* must plunge himself suddenly into the Water, and get out as fast as he can, which may be repeated Mornings, twice or three Times a Week *pro re nata*.

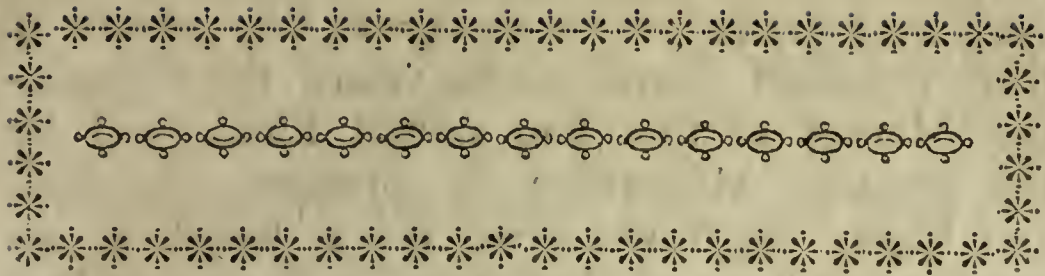
It remains now, that I mention a few Things relative to the particular Management of a *Patient*, which may furnish some Directions not to be found in the foregoing *Essay*. After having earnestly represented the Necessity of complying with the Rules recommended in *Seçt. IX.* the first Subject of the Physician's Prescription is an *E-metic*. It is necessary to clean the *Stomach* and *Bowels* preparatory to the succeeding Medicines, and to this End, a Dose of *Rhubarb* must be added to the *Vomit*. I have known *Ipecacuanha E-metics*, repeated, once a Fortnight for several Months together, with Design to make Revulsion from the inferior Parts, but not, as I could perceive, with any extraordinary Benefit. One Emetic generally will suffice, the rest depends entirely on bracing Medicines, with nervous ones interspersed, and nourishing Diet. The *Whites* of new laid Eggs mixed, and afterwards the *Yolks*, swallowed whilst yet warm, are by me always enjoined. Instead of *Foreign Teas*, almost always hurtful to the Nerves, a *Tea* made of *Baum* and *Mint* should be used, in every Dish of which a *Tea-spoonful* of the balsamic Mixture, *ex cremor. Lact. Vitell. Ov.* and two or three Drops of Oil of *Cinnamon*, gives a very agreeable Flavour, and is highly grateful to the *Stomach*. Next comes in the *Cort. Peruv.* to be chewed every Day; a *Tea* also may be made of this, finely powdered, with dried *Orange Peel*,
D 2 and

and a little *Cinnamon*. The *chalybeate* mineral Water, or a Julep *ex Aq. Alexiter. simp. Aq. Cinnamon. simp. Menth. &c.* with some Drops of *Spir. Laven. C.* and *Tinct. Saturnia. a p. e.* of *Elix. Vitriol. acid. vel Tinct. Cort. Peruvian.* may be taken at any Time on an empty Stomach; and if at any Time Costiveness be the Consequence of this, the chewing a little *Rhubarb* will remove it.

One extraordinary Circumstance attends this Disease, *viz.* a Return after having been alleviated, and even when the Patient has seemed quite well. I have known the *Nocturnal Emissions* return, and continue two or three Nights successively, and this happened several Times since the Cure, when it was least apprehended; but the worst of the Disease recurs after an Intermission of several Years, as recorded by *Lommius*.* I have never known it, but it is not improbable.

* Observation. Medicinal.





A
T R E A T I S E
ON THE
N A T U R E and E F F E C T S
OF
V E N E R Y, &c.

I N order to explain the Nature and Effects of *Venery* on human Constitutions, and shew wherein its Use and Abuse consists, it will first of all be necessary to consider the Conduct of Nature in the Secretion and Preparation of the *Semen virile*, the principal efficient Cause of the same in Men: The Design of this *Treatise* being to give some Account thereof as far as relates to that Sex only.

The *male Semen* then, or *Semen virile* is first secreted ~~from~~ the Blood in the spermatick Arteries, and in an elaborate Operation of Nature performed

performed by Means of capillary Vessels called *Vasa præparantia*, or *preparing Vessels*, which by their manifold Convolution retard the circulating Motion of that fine animal Fluid, and by the tortuous Mechanism so prepare, subtilize, and highly digest the same, till at length it arrives to that State of Perfection, as to contain in it the first Principles or Rudiments of human Generation.

These Arteries by their Growth become of a sufficient Diameter to admit the semeniferous Blood, and convert the same into the true Nature of *Semen virile* about the Age of fourteen or sixteen Years, when the Signs of Puberty manifest the Existence of it in the Blood by the Change of the Voice, which at that Time breaks and becomes of a graver Tone, the Appearance of the Beard, &c.

The *Semen* when formed is by provident Nature repositied against Time of Use in membranous Cells called *Vesiculæ seminales*, in which it is thought to receive a further Degree of Maturation and Perfection. This soft oleaginous Fluid is judged to be compounded of the finest and most balsamic Parts of the Blood, an immoderate Expence of it being constantly followed by a general Debility of the Body, and sinking of its animal Powers, from whence the ancient Physicians concluded that it proceeded from all Parts of the Body, and was endued with an aerial Spirit partaking of the same Nature with the animal Spirits; and some among them have even affirmed it to be derived from the Nerves themselves, from the Observation they made of the Relaxation that followed the Emission of the
same

same in Coition,* in which Matter they mistook the Effect for the Cause; it being unreasonable to think that the Loss to the Body of so small a Quantity of *Semen* as is at that Time emitted, should alone be sufficient to bring on so great Dejection and Lassitude.

The Relaxation before-mentioned is more in Consequence of the Elasticity of the animal Fibres of the whole Body being too much straitened and weakened by the Contraction and Convulsion they undergo during the Time of the veneral Orgasm than to the Discharge of the *Semen*, which when emitted in due Proportions, *Natura duce*, by the moderate Use of *Venery*, must be allowed to be a salutary and necessary Evacuation of Nature, and so far from being injurious, is highly beneficial to Mankind in general. The Damage that accrues to the human Body, from an undue Retention of the *Semen* is indeed often of pernicious Consequence, and may be the Cause of all the Diseases proceeding from a *Plethora*, or Superabundance of Blood and Humors, as will more evidently appear, when we come to explain the ill Effects of such unnatural Suppression.

*A turgescence
of the
humours*

Notwithstanding what has been said, *Venery* may properly enough be reckoned in that Part of the Non-naturals which respect Things excreted from, and Things retained in the Body, as Mischiefs arise in the animal Oeconomy, either from an undue Retention, or too copious a Discharge of that animated Fluid,† the *Semen masculinum*.

* Post coitum tristitia.

† See the works of *Redi*, and *Leeuwenboek* for the Proof of Animalcula in Semine.

When

When this animal Fluid has passed through its proper preparing Vessels, and is repositied in its Receptacles, the *Visiculæ feminales*, in them it acquires a thicker Consistence, and if too long retained without any Evacuation, may in some Persons so far obstruct the seminal Secretion by occasioning too great Repletion in the Blood Vessels of the Testicles, as to bring on an Inflammation* and Swelling of the same.

The Blood by the Superfetation of this animal Humour so unduly accumulated for Want of sufficient Room to circulate freely through the Vessels, distends the Sides of the same beyond their proper Diameters, which consequently impairing their tonick Motion occasions an Increase in the Size of its *Moleculæ*, and of Course a *Remora* in the Circulation; by Reason of which the Blood and Humours become glewy and tenacious, and the whole Habit bloated and cacochymick.-----

The free Secretion and Propagation of the Humours as well sensible as insensible being thus obstructed, some one or other of the following Diseases proceeding from a *Plethora* and *Cacochymy* ensue; such as *Pain in the Head*, *Palpitation of the Heart* upon the least Motion, or after Meals, *Apoplexy*, *Pleurisy*, *Spermatick Fever* †, *Lethargy*, &c. according to the different Temperaments, and Constitutions of the Persons, who by such undue Continency are the Cause of so much Hurt to themselves, and rather than obey the Impulses of unerring Nature chuse by a rigorous Ascetic Apathy to resist her Motions, and thereby counter-

* Cor. vii. 9. *Epist. A.*

† Sinnibald Gencanthrop. B. 9. Tr. 1. ch. 7.

acting

acting that great Command* of their Creator, of which the Mind is made conscious for the Propagation of the human Species, and thus preventing the animal Oeconomy, justly incur the natural Consequence of such premeditated Violence offered to her Laws.

But Nature which ever exerts her Power in the Preservation of each Individual, especially when obstructed in any of her Operations, so in the present Case; when Man is arrived to that Age as to possess the Faculty of Procreation, the tender Organs destined for its Source by their Fulness become turgid, and by the Pressure of their contained Fluid act upon the nervous Fibres with such inexplicable Energy, as to prompt the Expression of their Contents by the Gratification of the universal Appetite, which is an Operation of the Mind, without whose Influence the Parts of Generation are never actuated: But when once the confined *Semen* hath been ejected, it so far dilates the excretory Ducts of its containing Vessels the *Vesiculæ seminales*, as to render them unable at any Time afterwards to restrain the same, with Restriction sufficient to resist their Plenitude when the *Semen* is collected in such Measures, as to impress the nervous *Fibrillæ* of those Parts with such Sensations as excite in the Imagination a Desire to *Venery*; which Inclination naturally arises in the Minds of all Persons, even the most *Platonic* Recluse, and presents them with Phantasms too powerful for the Frailty of their Nature once indulged to chase away with Resolution sufficient to prevent their Defilement.

* Our Maker bids increase; who bids abstain.
But our Destroyer, Foe to God, and Man! *Par. Lost. B. 4. v. 748. 749.*

Moreover, this animal Fluid the *Semen* by some Part of the same being absorbed by certain recurrent small Vessels, so rarifies the Blood and Juices of young Men of a sanguine Constitution and lively Disposition, and acts with such *Energy* on their corporeal Organs dedicated to *Vener*y, as to require but little Concurrence of the mental Faculty to excite such Motions within them as tend to the Benefit of Nature, and the Preservation of that *Equilibrium* between the solid and fluid Parts of the Body, by which Health is maintained, as far as depends on the due Performance of the seminal Function.

The Return of the *Semen* into the Blood, how much soever the Existence of the recurrent Vessels which absorb the same, may from their Minuteness be doubted of by many, is farther manifest from the superior Courage, Manliness of Deportment, hirsute, robust Habit of Body, base Tone of Voice, and other Signs of Virility, which Men perfect in their Kind are endowed with in a Degree superior to those who by Mutilation have been deprived of the Means thereof. Such Persons therefore losing the Properties of their own Sex acquire many of the Qualities proper to the other, such as a treble Voice, Softness of the Skin, a pusillanimous Disposition, effeminate Delicacy of Manners, and other Tokens of deficient Manhood.

The Pernicious *Effects* of immoderate *Vener*y, by which the Body suffers too great an Expence of the seminal Fluid, have been so well described in the foregoing Treatise, as hardly to admit

admit of farther Amplification in this Place; I shall therefore as it comes within the Verge of the present Inquiry only in general observe, that this Kind of Intemperance robs the Blood of its most balsamic and nutritive *Particles*, and making too great a Drain by the Genitals, renders the Juices of the whole Body so thin and acrid, as to disqualify them for the Purpose of animal Nutrition, which Defect is followed by a general Relaxation of the Solids: The Spirits for Want of their proper *Pabulum*, a due Consistency in the Blood, and a well connected Chyle, become languid and effete, and the whole Frame labours under an Atrophy or *Tabes Dorsalis*, which sooner or later puts a Period to the Life of such, who by an inconsiderate Profusion of this animating Fluid the *Semen*, which was designed for a nobler End than the bare Titillation of the sensitive Organs, spur Nature on, till tired with the Course she relinquishes her Post, and the miserable Object falls a Sacrifice to inordinate Gratification, the Desire of which in this Disease of the Body and Mind grows daily more and more exorbitant in Proportion to the Continuance of the same, by which the preternatural Heat, and Distemperature of the Blood increase, and the Juices are accordingly rendered more acrimonious and stimulating; the Truth of which might easily be evinced if necessary, or consistent with the designed Brevity of this Treatise.

nourishment

Since the *Semen virile* is a Fluid of the most elaborate and noble Production of any in the whole Body, except that of the Nerves, if such there be, and which after going through divers Concoctions is the Offspring of the last, the

Frigidity and Declination of Strength incident to Old Age, which may be called the Winter, as Youth may the Summer of Life, must render the former an improper Season for Venery, when the animal Fibres are indeed become more rigid, but are less flexible, vegete and elastick. If such would rightly consider and steer the Course of Nature aright, which with Respect to all our Appetites is the secret Guide, as might if not need- less be proved in all its Instances, they would not, by mistaking the proper Latitude they ought to keep, so often shipwreck the small Share of Vi- gour and Strength that at that Stage of Life ge- nerally remains to animate their ossifying Fibres, and prevent the same from growing impervious, if they were thoroughly convinced, that by such precipitate Conduct they shorten the Period of Life allowed to such as make a right and prudent Use of it.

Although the Use of Venery is in general obnoxious to the Constitutions of old Men by extinguishing their vital Heat, and precipitating the Dregs of Life too soon, the same is found to have a contrary Effect on young Men, whose natural Heat, instead of being impaired or de- pressed is by a moderate Use of it excited and encreased, and Nature afterwards enabled to per- form her several Functions in the Body with more Ease when freed from the Load of superfluous Semen, which how excellent soever in its Kind, when the same is degenerated or becomes cor- rupt by Stagnation or otherwise, may be produc- tive of Effects mischievous to the Body in Pro- portion to its superior Subtilty and Goodness ac- cording to that Maxim in Philosophy, *Corruptio- optimi*

optimi est pessimæ consequentiæ, i. e. The Corruption of the best Things is of the most pernicious Consequence.

Persons of a melancholick, cold, weak Constitution and relaxed State of Nerves, in whom the Circulation is languid, and consequently the Blood and Juices less agitated, being naturally less prone to *Venery*, suffer less Inconvenience from the unnatural Suppression of the venereal Appetite, than such as are of a more vegetably lively Complexion, and chearful Dispositions, if such there are who by rigid Abstinence and Mortification can subdue the Calls of Nature; without which Aids the Virtue of a *Stoick* is required to withhold Obedience to her Dictates.

The Persons to whom *Venery* may be indulged with some Freedom without Detriment to their Health, are such as are of a robust athletick Constitution, whose Fibres are strong and very elastick, who can undergo much Labour without Fatigue, and have early and constantly indulged themselves *in Horto Veneris*: To such the frequent Use of *Venery* becomes habitual, and absolutely necessary after Nature hath once been accustomed to a Discharge that Way, and if not indulged in such Degree as to impair the *Elasticity* of the animal Fibres, and thereby occasion great Faintness, Debility, and Coldness of the Limbs, and extreme Parts is attended with good *Effects*, by raising and cherishing the natural Heat promoting insensible *Perspiration*, and other natural Secretions of the human Body, at the same Time that it promotes the Increase of Society, as well as redounds to the corporeal *Pleasures*, and Advantage of such as are capable of sustaining so violent *Exercise* in such Measure as would enervate
Persons

Persons endued with a less Share of Strength and Vigour.

Persons of a delicate tender Texture of Body and weak *Crafs* of Blood and Spirits, should by no Means indulge their Genius in *Veneréal Enjoyments* without great Moderation and Caution, lest they bring on too great a Relaxation of the Nerves, and by overstraining the Fibres that compose all the Parts of their Bodies should injure and weaken their several Functions in the animal System, and become liable to all the Diseases proceeding from too great Relaxation, and Inanition, such as *Vertigo*, *Epilepsy*, *Atrophy*, &c. and fall devoted *Martyrs* at the Shrine of *Venus*

The Time when *Venery* may be used with most Advantage and Safety to the Health of all Persons ^{is} in the Morning, after a due Separation and Concoction of the Humours hath been effected by the preceding Night's Sleep, the Vessels being at that Time more empty, and the Body better fitted and prepared, the several Secretions and Digestions being performed, to sustain the Shock the animal Fibres in general undergo from the convulsive *Tremor* excited in them by the venereal Act.

Upon a full Stomach, or after any Fatigue of Body or Mind, Debauch of Wine or Watching, *Venery* cannot be used without great Detriment, by Reason the Vessels and Fibres of the Body, in the above Cases, being either overloaded, or in a State of Inanition, cannot execute their several mechanical Motions without being distracted, and their Tone so much weakened thereby,

as

as to occasion irreparable Damage to the Constitution if often repeated under ſuch improper *Circumſtances*.

In treating upon this *Subject*; the Nature and good or bad *Effects* attending *Venery* in ſome Inſtances, as far as relates to the male Sex only have been conſidered, which was as much as came within the ſhort Compaſs of the preſent Deſign, which was to endeavour to contribute *Something* towards a Regulation in the Conduct of Mankind, young Men eſpecially, with Reſpect to this Part of the Non-naturals, and point out the *Medium* whereby they may avoid falling into the *Tubes Dorſalis*, the *Ætiology* and Cure of which Diſeaſe hath been candidly handled in the foregoing Treatiſe; or a *Spermatick Plethora*, a Diſeaſe, which, though not ſo frequent as the former, has ſometimes been the Cauſe of Fevers and other Diſorders ariſing from too great Repletion, oftener than has been ſuſpected, or may perhaps be believed by ſome Perſons too ſceptical, or too negligent of *Physical Knowledge* to attend to the *Proof*, which upon *Examination* ariſes from the Nature of the *Cafe* and the eſtabliſhed Laws of Motion.

Unleſs this ſhort *Eſſay* ſhould in the mean Time excite ſome abler *Pen* to illuſtrate and give a farther Inſight into this uſeful *Subject* than what is here preſented to the *Publick*, the *Author* of theſe *Sheets* may in future Time, when Opportunity ſhall permit, endeavour to explain the ſame in a more general Manner, and with a more ~~ext~~enſive View, always paying a due Regard to Decency, as far as the ſame can be preſerved conſiſtent with the Licence that muſt be allowed

allowed to all *Treatises in Physick* to make them in the least explicit; which perhaps may be the Reason why so little has been said on the *Subject* just treated on, lest a Censure, justly due to none but Books of the most infamous Kind, should be the Lot of such as have no other *End* in View than the Good of Mankind, by the *Promotion* of *Medical Knowledge* in all its Branches.

F I N I S.

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